ing upon the celebrated precedent of the Grave and Cilley duel, he proposed to fight Pryor with any weapon which that festidious gentleman might Whereupon this stickler for the tenets of the code, this punctilious Pryor, not relishing the whistling of bullets any more than the gleaming of knives, conceived a sudden prejudice against pistols, and informed Col. Lander that he had no controversy with him! And so, Roger A. Pryor, not to put too fine a point upon it, who had gone swaggering into this quarrel, skulked out of it a Bunker Hill on his way to New-Orleans and a doubly-disgraced man.

MOUSTON ON CONVENTIONS.

Gov. Houston has published a long letter declining to allow his name to be brought before the Charleston Convention as a candidate for the Presidency. Though it is impossible to read this document without calling to mind the fable of the fox who stigmatized as sour the grapes that hung out of his reach, at the same time it must be admitted that a great many of Gov. Houston's points are extremely well taken, and very strongly put. The letter is principally made up of a series of pungent objections to the caucus system of Presidential nominations as it has been operated by the Democratic politicians. The General points out the effect of this system in denationalizing the party, and cutting it up into an incoherent congeries of sectional and personal cliques, having no common object of national imperiance in view, but limited to the securing of office, power, spoils, and plunder for this or that section of the party, and compelling all the others to submit to, and even to promote, this arrangement. Thus, the Charleston Convention will be made up of Squatter-Sovereignty Democrate, non-intervention Democrats, Territorial Slave-code Democrats, African Slave-trade Democrats, with half a dozen different shades and varieties of disunion, secession and Southern-Confederacy Democrats, which last, indeed, may be expected to exercise a controlling influence over its proceedings.

The General alleges that the existing agitation upon the subject of Slavery was entirely brought about through the eager struggles of selfish and unprincipled Presidential aspirants to manufacture political capital for themse'ves, and he alludes in Indignant terms to his own ostracism, because, foreseeing the inevitable consequences, he had refused to give his sanction to the Kansas-Nebraska bill. The Democratic caucus system, as managed by

The corrupt and selfish politicians who constitute the majority of the members, and by whom the honest minority is rendered powerless, and in fact employed to give a color of respectability to proceedings which they do not approve, tends at the same time to deprive the body of the people of their due influence, and the President so selected of his proper independence and the freedom of action essential to the discharge of his official duties. In the formation of conventions, public sentiment is not regarded nor expressed; but cliques and management and chicanery are resorted to as substilutes for it. Instead of giving expression to the popular will, which they pretend to be their object. oth the design and effect of these conventions, as they are actually conducted, is to control the popuhr action. Nominations are made and platforms put forth, containing in ambiguous language stetaments subject to different constructions in different parts of the Union, and calculated to deceive, and all who will not submit to this dictation are proscribed as heterodox, and sent out of the party. Thus the people find themselves stripped of their most valuable political privileges, and reduced to be the mere puppets of a few designing politicians.

At the same time, the candidate thus nominated is equally deprived of his individuality and his independence. He is the President, not of the nation, nor even of a party, but only of a clique of a party And this deprivation of political independence ex tends not only to the successful candidate, it exercises its powerful influence over all who aspire to the Presidential office. The result is, that the bold spirit which once characterized our statesmen, is had addressed Mr. Potter another note, offering to corrupted. Politicians no longer take the lead in accept his proposition, which was not delivered the path of progress and enterprise. Surrounded by the minions of a party, tied to a meaningless platform, compelled to consult the wishes of a faczion rather than the good of the nation, the President, with all the authority conferred upon him by the letter of the Constitution, is reduced to a mere puppet in the hands of those who made him. What independent man," the General indigantly asks. "would be such a President? With the Constitution for his guide, he should be tram-' meled by no party pledges. He should enter inte on bargain with political cliques or party leaders, " whose corruptions must be cloaked, and who must " be retained in office, to save the party the odium of "exposure." Whereas, the nominee of the Charlester Convention, would be expected to indorse the bessies of each and every faction composing it ad a horde of men who have been striving for yers to denationalize the Democratic party, until thy have reduc d it to a combination of factions, would stand with their eternal cry of "spoils," in th way of every righteous endeavor of his adminisration.

But though General Houston would scorn to accet the Presidency on such terms and from such a sorce, he still stands ready to serve his country in the office, provided the people, without the interwence of any Convention, should call him to it. In tat case, he intimates that a protectorate over Merco and the construction of a Pacific Railroad would be the leading objects of his administration.

Byar the most important decision made by the Courof Appeals at the term which has just conclude, was the affirmation of the judgment of the Suprese Court in the Lemmon case, a result indeed whichverybody expected. This Mr. Lemmon, it will brecollected, brought a number of slaves to this cit for the purpose of embarking with them for Texas but upon being brought before the late Judge 'ayne on habeas corpus, he pronounced them fie, on the ground that the owner had voluntarily bught them into this State.

To spease the wounded sensibilities of their Souther customers, a number of New-York merchants secribed and paid over to Mr. Lemmon a sum large than the value of his liberated slaves. But the tate of Virginia took up the case and caused to present suit to be instituted, in hopes by a decision Lemmon's favor to establish the principle that Southern slaveholder has the right to hold slave in this State if brought here not for the purpose oremaining here, but of passing on to another Slav State. The Supreme Court first, and now the Cart of Appeals has denied any such right. The case, bwever is yet to go up to the Supreme Court at Washington, and there are great grounds of apprehenion as to what the decision there may be. Since he Dred Scott case there is hardly any extravagane in favor of Slavery not to be expected from that cart. Should the approaching Presidential election esult in the choice of the Sham-Democratic Pro-Stvery candidate, we shall expect to see | Douglas at Charleston.

gangs of slaves, male and female, on their way to a outhern market, driven hand-cuffed and with whips cracking about their ears, through the streets of this city under authority of a new decision on the part of Judge Taney and his Pro-Slavery associates. This would be the next thing to the fulfillment of the auticipation ascribed to Mr. Toombs of some day calling the roll of his slaves under the shadow of Bunker Hill. Indeed, after such a decision, Mr. Toombs might easily do that by passing mark et.

The Herald, when it remarks that "the devil has got in to the Methodist Episcopal Church North," intends no sly allusion, we hope, to the Rev. Mr. Kettell, to whose speech in the Conference we referred on Saturday, and whom The Herald compliments is the same article as a "sensitive. rational, and educated clergyman," and his speech as a "masterly" one-" a better defense of the ' slave institution"-though, to be sure, that is not saying much-" than any delivered in Congress during the present session.'

That the Rev. Mr. Kettell may understand the precise value and bearing of these compliments, we beg leave to refer him to an article in a subsequent column of the same number of The Herald, in which that journal exultantly relies on the influence of the almightly dollar"-" their greatest and most powerful god"-to quiet down the people of ew-England and the North-West on the question of Slavery. "Even the clergy," remarks The Herald-no doubt with the New-York Methodist Conference, and the Rev. Mr. Kettell, and his masterly speech," in its eye-" are bowing down to it, and becoming eminently conservative. Slavery most of them regard as a sin; but a large number, continually growing larger, consider it as a venial sin, a sort of necessary evil; while some go still further, and justify the institution on moral and political grounds." In remarking as it does, in its first article, that it is Mr. Kettell, and men of the same stamp, who can alone save religion" from utter destruction, it must be the worship of the almighty dollar to which that journal

News from the City of Mexico to the 1st inst. do not confirm the accounts hitherto circulated from New-Orleans that, in consequence of the seizure of the Marin steamers, a decree had been issued banishing American citizens, and confiscating their property. It is stated, however, that great excitement prevailed, and that a declaration of war was talked of. The defeat of the attack on Vera Cruz s ascribed to that capture, the supplies upon which Miramon relied being on board those vessels.

Meanwhile, there are reports at Vera Cruz of a new march upon Mexico, for which purpose it was reported that the troops of the Northern Provinces were again concentrating. But it does not appear that the power of the Church party had been materially shaken. They still held the cities of Guadalajara and San Luis Potosi, and no progress had yet been made by the Constitutionalists in their attempts to recover those cities.

Our embassador, Mr. M'Lane has returned to Vera Cruz, and that city is recovering from the effects of the late bombardment, which occasioned much less damage than was at first reported.

THE LATEST NEWS

MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, April 15, 1860. THE PRYOR AND POTTER QUARREL.

The city is still agitated with various rumors to the effect that Mr. Pryor had disclaimed his second's action in rejecting Mr. Potter's terms, and under the advice of Mr. Pryor's friends to whom the message was alleged to have been communicated. Another is that Mr. Pryor had signified his willingness to meet Mr. Potter in common combat, with such arms as either might choose, outside the frequented walks.

These rumors have as yet no foundation in fact, whatever purpose may be entertained. They doubt less led to the arrest of Mr. Potter yesterday morning. Mr. Pryor has not been held to bail, and does not intend to put himself immediately within reach of the authorities. He was in the city, at the Kirkwood House, on Friday night, in company with Mesers. Miles and Keitt.

Mr. Potter had arranged a fortnight ago to go nome this week, but will remain in consequence of these reports. His friends do not propose to publish the correspondence now, as the main facts are understood by the public. They are, however, perfeetly willing the other side should. Col. Lander called upon Mr. Keitt on Friday night to understand whether his presence as the second of Mr Potter was any longer desired in connection with this affair, and was courteously assured it was not.

Many of Mr. Pryor's personal and political friends entertain the opinion that he unnecessarily pressed this quarrel on Mr. Potter, and having sumed an attitude in the House, which was followed up by a peremptory challenge, he was bound to accept any weapon that was proposed. Others sustain his course throughout, but obviously against the current of opinion.

THE CHARLESTON CONVENTION. A large number of Eastern and Western delegations arrived last night. Mr. Douglas's partisans are most active and noisy here, but will be less so at Charleston. They have not full swing, however, for Ike Cook openly offers to wager that he will not carry Illinois if nominated. Caleb Cushing declines going to Charleston as a delegate, and has notified his substitute to act. There was a movement on foot to make him permanent President.

A MEAN DISCRIMINATION. The Constitution meanly reflects upon Mr. Corwin for appearing before the Post-Office Committee to advocate Mr. Butterfield's project of mail steamer communication with Mexico, and yet applauded the speech of John Cochrane on the same subject. This is its characteristic fairness. TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION WITH CHARLES-

TON.

Telegraphic facilities between Charleston and here are only about one-eighth of those between Washington and New-York, so that unless the principal Presses unite in some common arrange ment, there will be difficulty in getting full proceedings of the Convention, there being only two wires to supply the whole business.

THE NOMINATION.

Mr. Toombs returned to-night from Georgia. He expresses the belief generally entertained here that the contest will be between Messrs, Hunter and

DEATH OF HON. W. C. JOHNSTON. William Cost Johnston, formerly in Cong. "088 from Maryland, died suddenly to-day. He hau been ill, but was supposed to be recovering.

DOUGLAS HEADQUARTERS. The Douglas men here have their principal headpuarters at the National Hotel under the lead of fr. Richardson, of Illinois.

Ohio delegates, like Mr. Faran, claim they can carry Mr. Douglas unless Mr. McLean be neminated at Chicago, who, they concede, can beat him.

nated at Chicago, who, they concede, can beat him.

To the Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, April 14, 1860.

It appears by the correspondence between the Government of the United States and that of Prussia, dating as far back as 1840, that white Prussia has evinced the most kind and conciliatory disposition in all the individual cases of compulsory enlistment of naturalized American citizens in the army of that Kingdom, she does not manifest any desire to surrender the principle involved.

WASHINGTON, April 15, 1860.

As a number of the opposition will pair off with Democratic members of Congress who are going to Charleston, and will avail themselves of this arrangement to visit their homes, it is probable that scarcely a quoram, if so many will be left here to attend to the public business.

David A. Burr, who has recently returned from

public business.

David A. Burr, who has recently returned from Utah, in a lecture last night, refuted the statement of Mr. Hooper, the delegate from the Territory, that the Mormons have no coinage of their own, and exhibited some of their money which the authorities have forced into circulation to show that it is thirty per cent because the standard described in the standard described described in the standard described in the standard described des

low the national standard.

It is said the Administration adheres to the possession of San Juan Island, and that, in response to the proposition of the British Government, the latter has by this time been so informed.

Mr. Stockton, Chaplain of the House, the President,

Speaker Pennington, and other members of Congress, being among his numerous auditors to day, was so pointed in his remarks as clearly to imply his strong

pointed in his remarks as clearly to imply his strong condemnation of the duello.

The Hon. Wm. Cost Johnson, ex-Congressman from Maryland, died here to-day.

The postage between the United States and the Grand Duchy of Luxemberg, by the Bremen mail, has been reduced from 22 to 15 centr, prepayment optional, so that the uniform rate of the latter amount is now chargeable on all letters conveyed in the Bremen mail between the United States and the States belonging to the German and Austrian Postal Union. the German and Austrian Postal Union.

The Pryor and Potter Difficulty. Washington, Saturday, April 14, 1860. Mr. Potter has been arrested and given a bond of

five thousand dollars to keep the peace, and especially not to fight a duel. The officers are in search of Mr. with great dignity and propriety. Pryor, who will be similarly bound.

Latest Doings in the Legislature. Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune

ALBANY, April 15, 1860-11 p. m. RUMORS,

The city is full of rumors as to when the Legislature vill adjourn, and when it wont, as to vetoes, railroad olls, &c. It is rumored that the Governor has vetoes repared for the Albany & Susquehannah Railroad ap ropriation, and three city railroad bills. Other accounts are that he has not, and will not veto any of these bills, but keep them to die patural deaths, in the event that the Legislature should adjourn to-morrow or

On the other hand, it is confidently expected that the Legislature will not adjourn till the city railroads are signed or vetoed, and that if vetoed they, with other ills that have been vetoed and are expected to be veoed, will have sufficient vitality by a union of interest to go through over the vetoes. One current rumon is to the effect that the Legislature will take a recess from Monday to Thursday, so that members can attend the Syracuse Convention, and the Governor have time consider the bills now before him. The farmers in the Legislature are very anxious to be at their plows, and I think it doubtful if they can be kept together after Tuesday next.

There is hardly a lingering hope remaining that the Legislature will agree on a Toll bill, and there is danger that it will adjourn without making provision to meet the liabilities of the State for interest on the canal debt. &c. The acts already passed provide for a tax of 2 mills to the dollar, and unless a Toll bill shall be passed it will be necessary to meet the State liabilities to levy a further tax of 13 mill, making the total tax four

There is a strong disposition in the Assembly not to levy this last tax, but to adjourn and go home, afte having presented an address to the people, showing who are the persons who have prevented the passage of proper measures for increasing the revenue without resort to burdensome taxation. But rather than have the State go to protest, it is said that the Governor will

The Utica Asylum Investigation Committee will reort to morrow. They have failed to find anything lecisive as to where the patient received his injuries as the employees of the Asylum are said to have testified differently from their statements to the Coroner's Jury. The Counsel for the Asylum who appeared before the Committee managed to rule out the testimony taken before the Coroner on technical points. I understand the evidence shows a wast of interest on the part of Dr. Gray, and that the attendants of the Asylum have peen selected without reference to their fitness.

Senator McLeod Murphy's resolution for the appoint ng of a Committee to investigate the affairs of the Central Park, was passed last night. The Senate also adopted the Assembly substitute for

the Bankrupt bill. There will be a fight in the Assembly against the

Commissioners of Records appropriation in the city tax levy as passed by the Senate, and it is doubtful if the Governor will sign the bill unless the item shall be stricken out.

Wisconsin Election. MILWAUKEE, Wis., Saturday, April 14, 1860.

The official returns, up to the present time so change the figures that the vote for Chief-Justice is considered doubtful. The friends of Sloan confidently claim his election. Noth ing but the ociffial canvass can decide.

From Albany.

Albany, April 15, 1860.

It has been agreed on by a number of members of the Senate and Assembly to introduce a joint resolution to-morrow to adjourn over until early in May, so as to give an opportunity to the Democrats to attend the Charleston Convention, and meet and settle up the business before the Chicago Convention.

The resolution will be coupled with the provision that no new business is to be initiated, the object being the defeat of the supposed design of the Governor to kill the City Railroad bills, by leaving them unsigned after the Legislature has finally adjourned.

Baltimore and Ohio Railread.

COLUMBUS, Friday, April 13, 1860. The damage to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad not of a serious character. All is in good order be-tween Newark and Bellair. The partien that was obstructed by the flood is between Columbus and New ark. A large force is at work there, and all will be repaired so that trains can pass over the entire line to row (Saturday.)

The Buffalo Harbor.

Buffalo, Saturday, April 14, 1860.

The dispatch in the New-York papers, dated Buffalo. Ith, in regand to navigation, is an error. Two pro-pellers have made an attempt to leave, but have not yet been out of sight. They can neither go further nor get back. The ice is firmly anchored, and the pros-pect of navigation opening is but little better than in midwinter.

Large Rise on the Ohio River.

The Ohio River at this point, 200 miles below Pittsburgh, is twenty fret deep, and at a stand. Bosts are plenty for all landings below. No damage has resulted to the Baltimore and Ohio Road, on track or bridges, by the recent freshet. Freight and passage trains are running regularly both ways.

Fire in West Troy.

Taoy, April 15, 1860.

On Saturday night a large fire occurred in West Troy, destroying N. L. Dann's cooper shop, a wagon factery, a grocery, eleven dwelling houses, and four barns. Lose about \$30,000; partially insured. The Arba Read, steam-fire engine of this city, prevented even a more destructive conflagration.

FROM CALIFORNIA.

Success of the Pony Express. ARR, VAL OF THE JAPANESE EMBASSY.

THE SIL VER AND GOLD MINES.

St. Joseph, Mo., Saturday, April 14, 1860. The first messenger on the Contral Overland Pony Express arrived here at 4 o'clock yes erday afternoon, with California dates to April 3, and Carson Valley dates to the 4th

This messenger came through in ten days to a min nte, he having left San Francisco at 4 p. m. on April 3. Owing to the derangement of the wires between here and St. Louis, the reports were delayed until this morning.

From San Francisco we have the following intel-

SAN FRANCISCO, April 3, 1860. The United States steamer Powhatan, Capt. Pearson, bearing the flag of Commodore Tatnal, arrived on the 27th of March from Japan, via Honolulu. She brings the Japanese embassy, consisting of two principal Embassadors, Princes of the highest rank among the nobility of the empire, and two associates, who are nobles of nearly equal rank. These four are of

the Emperor's Council. They are accompanied by a

suite of sixteen officers. Among them are three inter-preters and fifty-two subordinates—making seventytwo in all. The Powhatan arrived at Honolulu March 5, and remained there till the 18th. The Embassadors were there received with all formal honors. Private hospialities were extended on every hand, and the King and Queen held court at the palace for the reception of the distinguished foreigners, and welcomed them in

appropriate terms. They were also entertained at a

grand ball given by the officers of the Powhatan, ex-

pressing great delight at the gay and novel scene. They bring \$100,000 to defray their personal ex penses, although the embassy is invited at the sole expense of the United States. They were given the best quarters on board the Powhstan during the voyage, and arrived in good health and highly pleased.

The chief dignaturies are magnificently dressed in embroid red silk robes, each wearing a sword of beantiful workmanship. They have conducted themselves

The Japanese Embassadors visited San Francisco on the 31st uit., and have remained the honored guests of the city ever since. Twenty thousand dollars has been appropriated from the city treasury to provide for them spitable entertainment. All the Corporation officers, the members of the Legislature, the Governor and citizens generally have paid their respec's in person, and on the 2d instant a grand public reception was given the strangers at the largest ball in the city, where the United States officers, both civil and military, with the foreign consuls and State authorities, participated in the reception ceremonies.

The Japanese carry an immense amount of baggage, including many boxes of presents to the United States

The Powhatan, on the day of her arrival, went to Mary Island Navy Yard, all the embassadors remainiog on board. It will require several days to overhaul the steamer and take in coal, when she will sail for Panama. The embassadors will thence proceed to Aspinwall, where the United States steamer Roanoke is expected to be in waiting to convey them to Wash-

They are so well pleased with the Powhatan that they express their wish to have her detained at Panama to convey them back to Japan on their return from the United States. They purpose spending about a month on the Atlantic side, although their time is not

The Board of Supervisors sent a memorial up to the Legislature te-day, asking an appropriation of \$20,000 to be expended in entertaining the Japanese embassy.

The attaches of the Powhat in are ordered on board on the 5th inst., and the steamer is expected to sail for Panama with the Commissioners about that time.

The Powhatan arrived up from Mare Island to-day and a great military demonstration was taking place when the messenger left.

The Japanese steam corvette Candinamarruh ha

been in the Dry Dock at Mare Island Navy Yard and been put in complete order free of charge, Commodore Cunningham explaining that while he had no actual authority to render this accommodation, he felt sure he ment in doing for the Japanese steamer all that he

ment in coing for the Japanese steamer all that he could do for an American man-of-war.

The Legislature is occupied in considering the San Francisco Bulkhead bill. The contest is exciting, proportionate to the interests involved. The result is Lambife.

doubtful.

The State Capital seems permanently located at Sacramento, \$100,000 having been appropriated for the commencement of a capitol building, which is to cost, when complete, \$500,000.

Wm. B. Garrison and others are negotiating for a e of propellers to Japan. Mr. Garrison goes East

in July.

The Rover, from Japan, brings 2,700 tubs of rape-seed oil, 300 bundles sea weed, 200 bundles cuttle fish, 1,300 pieces of plank, and a miscellaneous cargo of

Japanese products.
The steamer Golden Age leaves on the 5th of April, und will take 400 passengers.
The Ovade, for Hong Kong, takes considerable flour

200,000 feet of lumber, and \$350,000 in gold and alver. The Eagle Wing, for New-York, takes 19,000 hides, 70 bales of wool, 60 casks of California wine, and or ones of wood, or clears of Cambring wine, and other domestic products.

The Legislature will adjourn April 24.

The Andrew Jackson arrived on the 24th ult., 98

The Andrew Jackson arrived on the 24th uit., 30 days from New-York.

The news from the Washoe mines is about as heretofore reported. Emigration thither is increasing.

The foreign summary of the news was sent by mail,
via the Butterfield route, on the 30th uit.

The amount of gold bullion deposited in the mint
last week was 2,994 cunces; and of silver bullion,
the amount was 7,000 onness; and the amount of
money coined was \$236,000, mostly in double eagles.

NEWS FROM OREGON, WASHINGTON, AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The steamer Brother Jonathan arrived on the 3d, with Oregon dates to the 26th ult., from Washington Territory to the 29th, and British Columbia to the

36th.

The bark Glimpse, with a cargo valued at \$200,000, was wracked near Victoria on the 15th of March. The vessel was insured for \$16,000, and the cargo for \$10,000.

Ean Juan island was in the joint occupancy of the

American and British troops.

It was estimated that 3,000 white men and 2,000 Chinamen were engaged in mining on the Fraser

The mining accounts from there are encouraging, and new diggings have been discovered in various The news from Oregon and Washington Territory i

INTERESTING NEWS FROM CARSON VALLEY.

CARSON CITY, April 4, 1869.

The excitement in regard to the silver and gold mines in this region is unabated. Hundreds are pouring in from all parts of California. Scarcely a company who are prospecting have failed in striking rich ore where they anticipated to find it. The mineral region extends for one hundred miles in every direc-tion, and rich discoveries have been made over one hundred miles up the Humboldt. The S, anish claims,

tion, and rice discoveries have been made over one hundred miles up the Humboldt. The Statish claims, situated where the mines were first opened, were yielding \$20,000 per day. Ground is changing hands at from \$100 to \$200 per foot.

The Meno Lake and Walker River country is rich in minerals. Hundreds are prospecting in that region, nd generally with good success. Ore is now being hipped to San Francisco for smelting. Five different ompanies are making arrangements to ship their ore seon as conveyance can be had. The ore sent yields rom \$2,000 to \$2,500 per tun. Discoveries of gold bearing quartz are being made every day. Machinery of every description is on its way here for the purpose of crushing, smelting, &c. Town property in different ocalities ranges high. Many fire-proof buildings are under construction. The population is increasing very fast, and it is thought that in two months the population will be \$5,000. Society is very bad. There are no laws for the collection of cebts or the panishment of criminals, and murders and lights are of daily occurrence.

Freights from California are very high. Flour is

now selling at \$40 per 100 pounds. Lumber is worth \$30 per 1,000 at some places in the mines, and other things are celling in proportion. things are selling in proportion.

The weather is stormy to-day, with a heavy fall of

snow on the mountains.

The Pory Express is greeted with great enthusiasm by the people of the Valley, and as we have had but a semi-monthly mail during the past Winter, the prospect of a quick communication with friends in the East is

of a quick communication with including very encouraging.

The telegraph line is now complete to Miller's Station, 30 miles east of this city, and an office will be opened at that point during the present week. In two weeks the line will be he operation 60 miles still further east, when the time will be reduced to eight days from St. Joseph to San Francisco, by telegraphic dispetches.

Although the weather has been apprecedentedly a

vere during the past Winter, the road over the Sierra Nevada Mountains has been open for travel the entire

It is hoped that Congress will give this country

Territorial Government this session.

Territorial Government this session.

NEWS FROM JAPAN.

By the Powhatan advices from Japan are received to the 15th of February. The Government of Japan had commenced stamping Mexican dollars, making them legal currency in that country, thus obviating one of the principal difficulties in prosecuting trade with foreigners.

NEWS FROM THE SANDWICH ISLANDS. The news from the Sandwich Islands is unimportant The schooner Emma Rooke of New London, arrive at Honolulu on the 16th of March.

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL NEWS.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 32-2 p. m.

The market for the past week has been devoid of any of the speculative operations which have characterized business since the year opened. Operators have completed their purchases for the first fortnight in March, hence the real duliness of trade since has been more papable, although the market is not yet settled. The Washoe-mines excitement is still influencing the country trade, keeping stocks down to a low point, pending the change that the large emigration to that region may work when the bpring fairly opens. There is a more healthy demand for good from regular dealers. The country trade has run bare, and i calling for supplies to meet the consumption. Heavy rains have fallen within the week, which must again obstruct trains for a few days. Boots and Shees are much depressed. Adamathse Candles are quotable at 19c. Anthracite Coal is \$122\pi\text{120} \text{14} \text{150} \text{2} \text{14} \text{150} \text{2} \text{150} \text{150}.

Uncodes are quotable at 19c. Anthracite Coal is \$12\pi\text{150} \text{140} \text{150} \text{150} \text{150}.

Fish quiet; old Cod is a drug. Fruit, in the and glass, deciling; a large domestic crop will soon come on the market. Dried Fruits unchanged.

Gunny Bags improved to 16c. Malt Liquors without improves CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL NEWS.

heavy: Drills firm at 94c.; Sheetings 9c., with but few selling; a large demestic crop will soon come on the market. Dried Fruits unchanged.

Gunny Bag improved to 14c. Malt Liquors without improvement. Molasses and Sirups are losing their late buoyancy; Fast Boston sells at 2cc.; larger packages are much lower. Nails are heavy at 34c. Naval Stores inactive and nominal. Olls are heavy at 34c. Naval Stores inactive and nominal. Olls are heavy at 34c. Naval Stores inactive and nominal. Olls are heavy at 34c. Naval Stores inactive and nominal. Olls are dealers at the similar disposition. Clineced Larg. and China Olls are duel and anchanged. Olive Oll still rules higher. Provisions are gaining frances. Bacen 12c 26c 54c. for best brands. New Britteris alow; sales of the best via the Isthmus, at 274c., though many holders demand 34c. Brined Hams 12c. Lard less firm; J. H. & Co's, by the 50 cases, can be bought at 154c. Pork in steady inquiry; Extra clear \$2s, and \$11 for Mess, \$348 50 for Frime and \$415 56 for Feries. Raw Sugars drooping; No. 1 China dull, at 84c.; Domestic better maintained; sales of New-Orleans at 13c., and choice Muscovado at 12c. Foreign Brandless in speculative request, and rates advanced, but dealers are doing nothing. Other Spirits are dull; American drooping. Whisky 32d-44c. Brandy 48c. Pure Spirits 42c. Alcohol 75c. Teas greatly depressed. Wines unchanged; 75 casks of Claret per the ship Jean Pariotr are yet in first hands.

3:30 P. M.—All kinds of business much depressed. Pork and Becon firmer, without much activity. Butter declined; best Eastern 22c. Sugars dull and declining; best China 32d-5c. 4p bbl. All kinds of Domestic Produce dull. Money for the seater of the 5th easter; quotations at 2 4c cent on good names or merchandise collateral.

SHIPPING NEWS.

SHIPPING NEWS.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 3, 1960.
Since the departure of the Overland Mail of the 28th ult., the Since the departure of the Overland stall of the zon six, the following vessels have strived:
Arrived March 26, barks Rival, from Baltimore, and Trusco, from Sydney; 27th, steamer Golden Age, from Pansana; 29th, U. S. steamer Powhatan, from Japan; 30th, bark Rover, from Japan; 31st, ship Sierra Nevada 97 days from Boston; French ship Jean Bart, from Bordeaux; 30th, steamer Champion, from Pansava.

Fanama Arrived March 31, brig Crimea, from Coronel; ship Giadiator, rom Alexandria. Salled March 23, ship Hindostan for Puget's Sound, and the noe shound to Valparaise; 27th, ship Ovade for Hong Kong; 30th, sale Wing for New-York Salled April 2, ships Expounder for Callao; 3d, Ganges and tilas for Mazatlan; Ocean Telegraph and Harvey Hastings, for Jallao.

Callao.
Salled from Tshiti Jan. 4, ship Modern Times for New-York;
6th, whaleship Massachusetts for home; 9th, whaleship Splendid for home; 16th, whaleship Warren for home; 19th, whaleship Julien for the North.

GREAT REJOICINGS AT THE SUCCESS OF THE PONY EXPRESS.
St. Joseph, April 14, 1860.
A spirited demonstration was made here last night in honor of the prompt arrival of the first pony express from San Francisco. The city was illuminated, the citizens paraded the streets with bands of music, fireworks were set off, speeches were made appropriate to the occasion, and the best feeling was manifested by everybody.

everybody.

The last hundred miles of the route were made in The last numbered miles of the route were made in eight hours, and the courier states that even better time had been made over other portions of the road. We are not advised where the express which left here on the 3d inst, met this one coming this way.

The next express will leave here Tuesday next, April 20, at 9 o'clock in the morning.

Fire in Vincennes, Ind. VINCENNES, Ind., April 15, 1860.

A fire last night destroyed Eastham's Block, with nearly all its contents. Lose about \$10,000; insured for \$3,400. The fire originated in a bakery in the building.

Naval.

NORFOLK, April 15, 1860.

An inspection of the United States ship Germantown

took place yesterday. The evolution and exercises of the crew were highly satisfactory. The Dismal Swamp is on fire, and the flames are raging with much violence. The Weather at Halifax.

HALIFAX, Saturday, April 14, 1860.
Wind N. E., light and cloudy all the morning, with snow from 12 to 3 o'clock. Thermometer 42° at 4 p. m. Aurora last night from N. E. to N. W., with strong cost wind. THE CASE OF McDONALD.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

Sir: In reply to the article headed "McDonald the Murderer," in your issue of last Wednesday, which has just come under our observation, we ask leave, in order to prevent misapprehension, to submit the following statement:

1. The caption of the article is unjust. The law presumes McDonald to be innocent until his guilt proved.

You do not know whether the the act for which he is now confined was committed by him consciously or unconsciously, intentionally or unintentionally. It is not just, therefore, to assume that it was done with malice aforethought, and thus constituted a murder.

2. You observe, his case "affords a most glaring instance of the tardiness with which justice is meted out in this city to criminals who chance to be pos-

sessed of money."
We wish in this connection, to speak of the insinuation that by means of money McDonald has been cu-abled, thus far, to postpone his trial. We cannot un-derstand why this insinuation was made. The trul is McDonald had, and has, no money, and could not have purchased delay if it had been for sale. Prior have purchased delay it is not been for said. Frist to his commitment he was in the receipt of a salary as clerk. That salary terminated in the Spring of 1859, and by July its accumulations ha all been expended. Since July he has been in prison, and has been supported and provided with counsel entirely by the voluntary contributions of a few personal friends in Mobile.

3. After giving your version of the occurrence, and stating the commitment of McDonald and the placing in the House of Detention of the two girls who were

in the House of Detention of the two griss who were witnesses of the transaction, you say:

"After some weeks had elapsed, during which time the young girls had remained close prisoners. McDonald was brought up for trial. The testimory of the girls was taken they were examined and cross-examined by counsel until everything they knew of the case had been elicited from them and been committed to paper. The defense raised the plea of insunity, and McDonald's counsel requested the privilege of sending a commission to Mobile and to California, for the purpose of obtaining evidence of their client's de rangement of mind. As McDonald was possessed of considerable means, and was fortunate enough to be surrounded by influential friends, the request was granted as discontinuously.

appointed."

This statement is entirely incorrect. McDonald has never been put upon his trial. He has never yet presented his defense. His counsel never requested the privilege of sending a Commission to California. He was not possessed of considerable means. He was not surrout ded by influential friends. The facts are these:

The meal preliminary invastigation of the constant of surrou fed by influential friends. The facts are these:
The usual preliminary investigation of the case was had before the Coroner in August last, and the two girls were then examined by him, but were not cross-examined. Then McDonald was committed to await the action of a Grand Jury, and the two girls were committed to the House of Detention. The Grand Jery indicted him at the August Term of the Sessions, 1859, and he was immediately arraygned, and pleaded not guilty. His indictment was then remitted to the Over and Terminer, and the trial set down for the lat Monday in October, 1859. On that day, his counsel applied for commissions to a camine certain witnesses Monday in October, 1852. On that day, his counsel applied for commissions to axamine certain witnesses in Mobile, New-Orleans, and several cities in the Middle States. No previous opportunity had been afforced for making such application. The order was made on the 17th of October, 1852, granting such commissions. The most material part of that order was in these words:
"And it is forther ordered that within six days after the entry

of this order the coursel for the prisoner shall serve on the Distitot-Attorney copies of the interrogatories which he proposes to proposed to seek of the said witnesses in behalf of the prisoner, designating them respectively, and that the District-Attorney, within ten days thereafter, serve on the prisoner coursel copies of the cross-interrogatories which he proposes to propound to the said witnesses respectively, and also the names and places of residence of the witnesses he proposes to examine on the part of the people, and copies of the interrogatories he proposes to propound to them respectively, and to the direct interrogatories on the part of the people, the prisoner's counsel shell have ten days to prepare and serve conscinient registeries, and that the trial of this cause he postponed until the first Monday of December next. And it is fairhed ordered that if the District-autories shall require intribute time than the said ten days to prepare his cross-interrogatories to the prisoner's witnesses, the same shall be silowed to him, and it that case application may be made to the Court for a corresponding farmer postponement of the trial of this indictment."

In compliance with this order, the counsel for the prisoner served their direct interrogatories on the 24th day of October, 1859, on the District-Attorney has not served the cross interrogatories. He has been repeatedly solicited, both verbally and by letter, to serve them, and has as often promised to serve them just as soon as his other engage, ments would permit him to prepare them. But they have not yet been served, and to that fact, and to that fact alone, is due the delay in bringing on the trial On the 28th of February last we were informed that the cross hyterrogatories would be zerved within the next 10 days, and that the trial would be brought on its April. But the cross interrogatories were not served within ten days, and on our again, and on the 12th of March, applying for information, we were advised that they would be served as soon as

we have now no knowledge when the trust will be brought on.

In view of the foregoing facts, your "g'aring in"stance of the tardiness with which justice is nated out
"to criminals who chance to be possessed of money," becomes the simple truth that delay has arisen merely
from the fact that an overworked District Attorney
cannot possibly find time to discharge wish promptness
his constantly-secumulating official duties.

4. The remainder of your article is calculated to
excite public sympathy for the two girls who are detained as witnesses in the House of Detertion, and
who, we are informed, "have had constant employ"ment furrished them, during a long Winter, by a
"sewing-ma-bine."

who, we are informed, "have had constant employ"ment furrished them, during a long Winter, by a
"sewing-na bine."
Their detention was not asked for by McDenald, and
is a matter over which he had no control. If it had
been in our power to recure the liberation of the girls,
by admitting their testimony to be correct, or in any
other manner consistently with a due regard for the
rights of our client, we would have been very happy
to assist in setting them at liberty. We respect, in
every view of the case, that they have been as long
incarcerated. But this is in no degree our fault.
You say that McDonald "never betrays any of those
"evidences of insanity set forth by his counsel." If
McDonald be now perfectly sane, and behaves like a
quiet, intelligent gentleman, that does not necessarily
show in what condition his mind was when the unfortunate Virginia Stewart was shot; nor san you or
the public possibly form a correct jadgment as to the
nature or degree of responsibility devolving on
McDonald, because of the poor girl's melancholy fate,
until the evidence, which we have in good faith and
dilgently undertaken to obtain, shall have been procured. McDonald and his counsel are and long have
been anxious that he should be tried, and we are not
fearful of the consequences to result when ills case
comes to be considered by an impartial jury. But we
are apprehensive of editerial articles in journals of
influence, tending to the pre-judgment of his case, and
we deem it our right to ask that no more should be
presented in your columns.

Very respectfully yours,

JAMES T. BRADY,

E. H. GBANDIN,

C. A. SEWARD.

New-York, April 10, 1860.

MARINE AFFAIRS.

LOSS OF THE SCHOONER GRANDILLA.

The schooner Kensington of Charleston, Capt. Sabert, from Nuevitas, arrived at this port yesterday with Capt. Baker, the mate, the steward and his wife and child, of the schooner Grandilla of Boston, foundered at

could, of the schooner Grandilla of Bosten, foundered at sea. Capt. Sebert reports:

April 5, lat. 25°, long. 77° 40′, spoke brig John Chrystal, Capt. Upton, hence for Indianola, who transferred to us Capt. Baker, S. Baker, 1st officer, Mr. Wixon, staward, wife and child, of the schooner Granadilla of Bosten, which vessel was in a sinking condition, and the crew taken off by the John Chrystal."

crew taken off by the John Chrystal."

Capt. Baker reports:

"The schooner Grandilla of Beston sailed hence on the 21st inst., with a general cargo, bound to lifew-Orleans. On the 22d, in lat. 37°, lon. 73°, encountered a violent gale from the north-west, during which tae schooner spring a leak. On the 22d, at 44 o'clock p. m., the brig John Chrystal, Capt. Upton, hence for Indianols, came up. Finding it impossible to keep the vessel affout, I concluded to abandon her, and was taken off by the brig. There were eight of us on board, all of whom were rescued. At the time of leaving there were 24 inches of water in the hold, and blowing heavy with snow squalls. April 5th, lat. 25°, lon. 77°, 40°, was spoken by schooner Kensington of Charleston, Capt. Sebert, bound from Nuevitas, who kindly received myself, the first officer (Mr. Baker), he steward (Mr. Wixen), wife and child on board and brought

ard (Mr. Wixen), wife and child on board and brought us to this port."

The Grandilla is 228 tuns, rates A 2, was built in-Harpswell in 1855, and is owned by Mr. Deland of Boston, Capt. Baker and others. She is partly insured.

YACHT LAUNCH. Ingersoll the boatbuilder will launch a yacht of 13; tons from the foot of Rutgers street, East River, this

day, at 5 o'clock p. m. FOR RUROPE.

The splendid steamship Adriatic, Capt. Comstock, left this port on Saturday for Southampton and Havre with 197 passengers and \$605,000 in speci.e The British steamer Kangaroo, Capt. Brooks, sailed at the same time for Liverpool, via Queenstown, with 35 cabin passengers and 150 in the steerage. She takes out \$50,000 in specie. The Hamburg mail steamer Bavaria, Capt. Hensen, also left for Southampton, Havre

and Hamburg, with 185 passengers. VESSEL ON FIRE. The British bark Jane Frances, lying in the North The British bark Jane Frances, lying in the Norm River, and bound to Kingston, Jam., was, on Satur-day evening, discovered to be on fire in the coal hole. The crew of Harbor Police boat No. 3, with the aid of the crew of the vessel, extinguished the fismos before any serious damage was sustained. The fire is sup-posed to have been the work of an incendiary. No arrests were made.

GARROTED IN MERCER STREET .- Last night, as Albert Sully of Brooklyn was passing through Mercer street, he was accosted by two girls named Catharine Buckbee and Mary Ann Wilson, who acked him to give them fifty cents, wherewith to get some supper-Mr. Sully refused the request, and was about walking on, when one of the girls seized his cap, and with her companion ran away. Mr. Suly followed them very quietly, but had not proceeded far when three men suldenly arrested his further progress. One of the men seized his arms and the others were about rifling his pockets when the approach of some citizens frightened them, and the three escaped. Subsequently the girls were arrested by Officer Croeby, and one of the men named Thos. Flyan, all of whom were positively identified by Sully. The accused were locked up in the Eighth Ward Station-House.

MISSIONARY MEETING .- Last evening a missionary meeting was held in Calvary Church, corner of Pourth Avenue and Twenty-first street, the Right Reverend H. C. Lay, Missionary Bishop of the South West, presiding. After the usual evening services, addresses were delivered by Bishop Lay, the Rev. Mr. Van Kleek and the Rev Mr. Channey, and strong appeals made for aid for the Church in the South West. Bishop spoke at some length in regard to the field of labor in the great South West, and showed the difficulties under which the ministers there engaged labored. At the close of the services a large collection in aid of the cause was taken up.

STABBED .- Last night Don Stonini, an Ital'an, wa stabbed over the right eye by a knife in the ',ands of a ruffian in Center street. The wound, which is a very ngly one, was dressed by a doctor, at the Sixth Ward Station-House. No arrest.

John Edwards was caught last night in the act of picking the pocket of Michael Smith, in one of the Sixth-avenue cars. He was looked up.